

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 FILE-01 /027 R

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4/20/73 EXT 20840

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 075568

EXDIS/ TODEP 128 ZFF NEW DELHI ONLY

E. O. 11652 - GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, LE, IS, UN

SUBJECT: ATHERTON- DINITZ TELECON APRIL 20 EXPLAINING U. S.

INTENTION TO ABSTAIN ON MODIFIED BRITISH- FRENCH  
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

1. ATHERTON RETURNED DINITZ' S CALL AT 1:45 PM APRIL 20 AND  
ASKED WHETHER DINITZ AWARE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS. DINITZ  
SAID HE HAD HEARD AMBASSADOR SCALI HAD TOLD TEKOAH THAT  
U. S., AFTER SEEING THREE AMENDMENTS IN BRITISH- FRENCH  
DRAFT, WOULD ABSTAIN RATHER THAN VETO. ATHERTON CONFIRMED  
THIS CORRECT AND SAID HE WISHED TO MAKE SEVERAL POINTS  
EXPLAINING U. S. DECISION. HE CAUTIONED THAT ALL OF WHAT  
HE ABOUT TO SAY WAS SUBJECT TO SCENARIO UNFOLDING AS WE  
EXPECTED.

A. U. S. HAS FINALLY ACHIEVED A RESULT IN NEW YORK ON  
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WHICH WE HAVE DECIDED TO ABSTAIN.

B. U. S. TOOK A VERY FIRM POSITION WITH LEBANESE AND BRITISH AND FRENCH, AND OUR FIRMNESS PAID OFF.

C. THEY AMENDED OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH ONE OF UK/ FRENCH DRAFT TO READ: " EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN OVER AND ' CONDEMNS'

( VICE ' DEPLORES') ALL ACTS OF VIOLENCE WHICH ENDANGER OR TAKE INNOCENT HUMAN LIVES."

D. PARA 4 OF UK/ FRENCH DRAFT, WHICH WARNED ISRAEL THAT IF ATTACKS ARE REPEATED THE COUNCIL WOULD MEET TO CONSIDER FURTHER AND MORE EFFECTIVE STEPS, HAS BEEN DELETED ENTIRELY.

E. PARA 5, CALLING FOR WITHHOLDING ASSISTANCE FROM ISRAEL, HAD ALREADY BEEN DROPPED. IF IT IS INTRODUCED AS AN AMENDMENT, WE WILL VOTE AGAINST IT.

2. ATHERTON THEN SAID HE WANTED TO MAKE SURE DINITZ REALIZES THAT USG WELL AWARE OF CERTAIN FACTS:

A. WE RECOGNIZE FULL WELL THAT THESE CHANGES DID NOT MAKE BALANCED RESOLUTION. BUT THEY REPRESENT PROGRESS OVER INITIAL UK/ FRENCH DRAFT AND OVER PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS ON SAME ISSUE.

B. WE FELT THIS PROGRESS JUSTIFIED OUR ABSTENTION. IN PARTICULAR, WE DID NOT FEEL THAT WE COULD JUSTIFY VETOING RESOLUTION WHICH " CONDEMNS," IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH, " ALL ACTS OF VIOLENCE WHICH ENDANGER OR TAKE INNOCENT HUMAN LIVES." THIS WOULD BE INTERPRETED RIGHTLY AS CONDEMNATION OF TERRORISM IN CONTEXT OF PRESENT DEBATE AND RESOLUTION, AND WE WOULD STRESS THIS POINT IN OUR EXPLANATION OF VOTE.

C. WE RECALL WE VETOED RESOLUTION IN SEPTEMBER BECAUSE THERE WAS NO REFERENCE TO TERRORISM; IT WAS TOTALLY SILENT ON SUBJECT. WE HAVE NOW ACHIEVED RECOGNITION THAT TERRORISM IS TO BE CONDEMNED IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF SC RESOLUTION. THIS OBVIOUSLY DID NOT IN  
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ITSELF CONTAIN SUFFICIENT BALANCE FOR U. S. TO SUPPORT

RESOLUTION, BUT WE CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT NOT TO BLOCK THIS SMALL STEP FORWARD IN UN CONTEXT.

3. DINITZ SAID THERE WERE TWO OR THREE POINTS ABOUT DRAFT WHICH DISTURBED HIM AND WHICH WERE ABSOLUTELY UNPALATABLE TO HIS GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS A VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE:

A. THERE WAS NOT SINGLE MENTION OF WORD " ARAB" OR " ARAB GOVERNMENTS" IN DRAFT. TO SIMPLY DEPLORE VIOLENCE HAD BEEN DONE SINCE MOSES GAVE TEN COMMANDMENTS, AND UN RESOLUTION NOT NEEDED FOR THAT. AT SAME TIME RESOLUTION

DID NOT HESITATE TO MENTION ISRAEL BY NAME. DINITZ SAID RESOLUTION WAS AS BAD AS WHEN IT CONTAINED PARA 4 AND THE WORD " DEPLORES" INSTEAD OF " CONDEMNS."

B. ALSO OBJECTIONABLE WAS USE OF TERM " CONDEMN" IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS WHERE ISRAEL IS MENTIONED THREE TIMES BY NAME.

4. DINITZ SAID HE " ABSOLUTELY CANNOT ACCEPT" EXPLANATION DRAFT MATERIALLY CHANGED TO POINT WHERE U. S. COULD ALLOW RESOLUTION TO PASS. HE SAID HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN TO HIS GOVERNMENT ON WHAT BASIS U. S. HAS CHANGED ITS POSITION. HE SAID HE WAS SURE THERE WOULD BE A " VIOLENT, IN THE SENSE OF OUTRAGED REACTION" BY HIS GOVERNMENT. ATHERTON SAID HE WOULD PASS DINITZ REACTION ON AND ASKED DINITZ TO CONVEY TO GOI POINTS HE HAD MADE AND PARTICULARLY OUR BELIEF PRESENT DRAFT WAS SMALL STEP FORWARD. IN VIEW OF ALL STATEMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN AND WOULD BE MADE AT THE UN, THERE WOULD BE NO DOUBT WHAT USG POSITION ON ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE WAS. DINITZ ASKED IF IT IS SO CLEAR, WHY NOT PUT SUCH LANGUAGE IN THE RESOLUTION. ATHERTON RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF IT HAD BEEN POSSIBLE TO GET SUCH LANGUAGE. DINITZ AGAIN SAID HE DID NOT SEE WHY ISRAEL SHOULD BE ONLY COUNTRY TO BE CALLED ON BY NAME TO DESIST IN ITS ACTIONS. HE THEN ASKED ATHERTON TO REQUEST AMBASSADOR SCALI IN NEW YORK ASK FOR POST-CONFIDENTIAL

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PONEMENT SC DECISION WHICH WOULD GIVE ISRAEL CHANCE TO CONSIDER ACTING ON " HIGHEST LEVEL." HE ADDED THAT HE KNEW HIS GOVERNMENT FELT THAT STRONGLY ABOUT MATTER. HE ASKED ATHERTON TO PLEASE PASS THIS REQUEST ALONG TO SECRETARY. ATHERTON SAID HE WOULD DO SO IMMEDIATELY, BUT

HE DID NOT WANT LEAVE IMPRESSION WE BELIEVED IT POSSIBLE  
FOR UN SCENARIO TO BE CHANGED. IN CLOSING, ATHERTON  
DREW DINITZ' S ATTENTION TO FACT THAT U. S. NOT VOTING  
FOR DRAFT RESOLUTION BUT MERELY ABSTAINING. PORTER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* EXDIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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